

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Method A method for the preparation of an additive for providing controllable degradation thermoplastics of very light ~~colours~~ colors, which do not degrade too ~~rapid~~ rapidly to allow conventional methods for their processing, like film blowing, extrusion, and injection ~~moulding~~ molding, ~~characterized in that~~ comprising:

reacting a metal salt at its highest stable oxidation state ~~is reacted with~~ a C₈ – C₂₄ fatty acid or a C₈ – C₂₄ fatty acid derivative under formation of a fat-soluble metal compound and at least one volatile reaction product in a process in which a convenient oxidizing agent ensures that all of the metal in the end product remains in its highest oxidation state.

2. (Currently Amended) Method The method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said oxidizing agent comprises ~~hydrogen peroxide and e.g. consists of~~ a 0.1-5 % hydrogen aqueous peroxide solution.

3. (Currently Amended) Method The method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said oxidizing agent comprises organic peroxides and hydro peroxides.

4. (Currently Amended) Method The method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said oxidizing agent comprises air or oxygen enriched air.

5. (Currently Amended) Method The method as claimed in ~~one of the claims~~ claim 1-4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said metal salt is a chloride.

6. (Currently Amended) Method The method as claimed in ~~one of the claims~~ claim 1-5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said C₈ – C₂₄ fatty acid or a C₈ – C₂₄ fatty acid derivative is added in a stoichiometric excess, ~~e.g. of at least~~ of at least a 20% excess, in relation to the metal salt.

7. (Currently Amended) Method The method as claimed in ~~one of the claims~~ claim 1-2 or 5-6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein further comprising: washing the fat soluble metal compound is ~~washed~~ with an aqueous solution of hydrogen peroxide to remove any remains of unreacted

metal salt; ~~by dispersed~~ dispersing the fat soluble metal compound in an aqueous diluted solution of the hydrogen peroxide at 35-55 °C for 1 to 3 hours, ~~then washed~~ washing the fat soluble metal compound with water and ~~dried~~ drying the fat soluble metal compound in a convection oven.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method as claimed in ~~one of the claims~~ claim 1-7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said C₈ – C₂₄ fatty acid or a C₈ – C₂₄ fatty acid derivative ~~is~~ comprises stearic acid.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that it also includes the addition of some~~ further comprising adding wax to bind the product to solid lumps that ~~does~~ do not release dust.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the volatile reaction products and/ or reactants are eliminated by azeotropic distillation.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the metal salt ~~is~~ comprises an iron salt of which the highest oxidation state is 3.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~Additive~~ An additive for controlling the degradation time of products like thermoplastics, oil and the like, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the additive is prepared as defined by ~~any one of the claims~~ claim 1-11.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~Additive~~ An additive as claimed in claim 12, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the additive is included as one of several elements of a master batch being tailored for a particular application.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ The use of additive as claimed in claim 12 ~~or claim 13~~ in thermoplastics in combination with at least one per se known additive chosen among antioxidants, radical scavengers, UV absorbers, amines, peroxides, and/ or peroxide forming substances for thermoplastics or blends thereof.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~The use of the additive as claimed in claim 12, wherein said thermoplastic ~~being~~comprises polyethylene, polypropylene or any combination of polyethylene and polypropylene.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~The use as claimed in claim ~~14 or claim 15~~14, wherein the type and amount of said per se known additive or additives being chosen and adapted respectively are selected so that the desired degradation time is achieved for the actual thermoplastic material or blend of thermoplastic materials.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~The use as claimed in ~~any one of claims 14-16~~, where said per se known additive is chosen among Sanduvor PR25, Chimassorb 81, Cyasorb UV 5911, Tinuvin 326, and Tinuvin 1577.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~The use as claimed in ~~any one of claims~~claim 14-17, where said per se known additives are present in a relative amount of from 0.03 to 10 % by weight of the thermoplastic material or the blend of thermoplastic materials, and preferably from 0.05 to 0.5 %.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~The method for the manufacture of a very light-~~coloured~~colored thermoplastic material which may be film blown, extruded and/ or injection ~~moulded~~molded and which yet is degradable in less than one year under influence of light, ~~characterized in that an~~wherein the additive as claimed in claim 9 is added to the thermoplastic in an amount of at least 0.03 % by weight of the thermoplastic material, in combination with a per se known antioxidant.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~The method as claimed in claim 19, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the amount of additive is adapted to the chosen type of and amount of antioxidant in order to control the processibility of the manufactured thermoplastic as well as its degradation time under influence of light.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~The method as claimed in claims 19-20, ~~characterized in that wherein the additive is~~comprises ferric(III) stearate and that it is being added in an amount of at least 0.1 % by weight of the thermoplastic material.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~The method as claimed in claim 21, ~~characterized in that wherein the ferric (III) setearate comprises~~ a 0.5 % by weight solution of ferric(III)stearate in an aliphatic hydrocarbon, consisting of e.g. poly(1-deken), which has a Gardner Colour Number according to ASTM 1544, that is 4 or less than 4.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~The method as claimed in ~~any one of claims claim~~19-22, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ said antioxidant is chosen among so-called-process stabilizers; ~~like~~consisting of phosphites, thio synergists, CH-acid radical scavengers, and phenolic antioxidants.

24. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~The method as claimed in ~~any one of claims claim~~19-23, further comprising~~characterized in that the manufacture comprises~~ compounding the additive and the thermoplastic in an extruder or the like.

25. (Currently Amended) ~~Very~~A very light-colouredcolored thermoplastic material that may be film blown, extruded and/ or injection mouldedmolded and which yet will degrade in less than one year under influence of light, ~~characterized in that it~~wherein the material is manufactured according to ~~one of claims~~claim 19-21 (should be 19-24).